

Nebraska community colleges are certainly encouraged by the President's proposal, as evidenced by the November 22, 2004, Omaha World-Herald article entitled, "Nebraska Educators Like Sound of Bush Proposals." Mr. Jerry Moskus, President of Metropolitan Community College in Omaha was quoted in the article saying, "The great part about this was seeing the Members of Congress stand up and applaud for community colleges. I think that was the high point of my month."

Job training programs are essential, according to Mr. Barry Kennedy, President of the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "Those of us involved with economic growth have been talking about this for the last year or so," Kennedy told the World Herald. "We still have people who say they would hire more people if they could just find people with the skills they needed."

The President's proposal would also encourage students to take more rigorous courses in high school. As an incentive for students to take more demanding high school courses, the President's proposal would provide larger grants for college under the Pell Grant program. This program is said to be consistent with Nebraska's P-16 Initiative, an initiative that integrates a student's education beginning in preschool and ending with a 4-year college degree.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, this Member is intrigued and enthusiastically supportive of the President's proposal. Also, this Member would like to express his support for community colleges and the quality education they provide.

HONORING JENNIFER HUNTER

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jennifer Hunter, one of my remarkable young constituents who had an outstanding accomplishment.

Jennifer is a 12 year-old little leaguer in my hometown of Tarpon Springs, Florida. In April of last year, she used her 60 mile per-hour fastball to throw a no-hitter against one of her team's opponents. She had a 6 and 3 record and a 2.10 Earned Run Average in 54 innings last season. Baseball fans know that these are tremendous accomplishments. They are especially impressive considering Jennifer is playing against boys.

Jennifer, you see, loves baseball and wanted to test her skills against her peers, both male and female. Her teammates were unsure about having a girl on their team at first, until they saw her play. Jennifer recently told Sports Illustrated that "they thought I wasn't going to be any good." However, she says, they became closer once they saw her play, particularly after her no-hitter. Jennifer wants to play in the Women's Professional Baseball League next year, and though the league has no players younger than 18, I am confident that she will give the older women all they can handle.

Mr. Speaker, Jennifer Hunter has shown me, my friends, and neighbors that hard work, determination, and perseverance can help us achieve what many, if not most, thought impossible. I congratulate her and her family and

urge our colleagues to wish her luck in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CECILIA COTA-ROBLES SUAREZ

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute today to the life of Dr. Cecilia Cota-Robles Suarez, a longtime political and educational leader. She passed away last week after a courageous battle against breast cancer. This is why I have fought and continue to fight tirelessly on behalf of breast cancer research, through such legislation as H.R. 1385 which recently passed the House. Without proper funding, it will become increasingly difficult to save the lives of people like Dr. Suarez, whose remarkable and inspirational life touched the lives of countless people. So I join today with family and friends in honoring her memory.

To all those who knew Dr. Suarez, she exhibited love of life, generosity of spirit, and compassion for her fellow man. She was a dedicated teacher who challenged those around her to strive for a better life through educational opportunities, never being satisfied with the way the world is but instead questioning what it could be.

After receiving her Doctorate in education from U.C.L.A., Dr. Suarez went on to fight for early childhood and bilingual schooling. As President of the Association of Mexican American Educators (AMAE) and member of the National Chicana Foundation, as well as the Tri-Counties Mexican American Political Association, she was a passionate advocate and leading activist for Hispanic education. Her tremendous selflessness led her to her role as community leader and respected member of her community.

I join today with family and friends in paying tribute to Dr. Cecilia Suarez, beloved wife, mother, and friend. She is survived by her three children Francisco, Mike, and Laura, and her four grandchildren Arnado, Michelle, Christine, and Victoria. Her generous and gregarious spirit will be deeply missed by all.

CELEBRATING THE RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR THE 3D MEDICAL COMMAND AT THE UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER AT FORT GILLEM

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of a very special occasion. The United States Army Reserve 3d Medical Command will conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Fort Gillem United States Army Reserve Center on Friday, the sixth of February, 2004 at Fort Gillem Georgia located in the 13th district of Georgia.

During my tenure as the Representative of the 13th District of Georgia, the support of Fort Gillem continues to be my top priority.

Not only is the installation a vital element to our country's defense, but is the third largest employer in the largest county in my district. The United States Army Reserve Center provides a 1,600 person, two story training and storage facility, medical warehouse, and vehicle maintenance to the multi-mission, multi-service component functions of Fort Gillem. As the logistical base for the United States Army, Fort Gillem consists of 142 buildings and 77 tenants spread over 1,427 acres, with the First U.S. Army as the senior occupant.

The First U.S. Army trains, mobilizes and deploys Army Reserve and National Guard units in the eastern United States, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands, and as directed, conducts Homeland Defense, in support of national objectives. The installation is also the home of an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Headquarters, responsible for two medium company operational facilities and a Battalion Headquarters. The 2d United States Army Recruiting Brigade Administrative facility and Army Medical Department detachment also provide operational readiness as major tenants of Fort Gillem.

Soon, an 88,000 square foot special design forensic Criminal Investigation laboratory that includes labs, administration, evidence storage and training and conference rooms will join Fort Gillem. With the opening of this new facility on Fort Gillem, the United States Army Reserve 3d Medical Command is now better equipped to continue its critical missions in support of our great Nation, and on behalf of the constituents of the 13th district of Georgia, welcome.

RECOGNIZING BERNHARD "BARNEY" MAYRSOHN ON HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Purchase, NY, resident Barney Mayrsohn for his life of service to our country, from the snowy forests of the Battle of the Bulge in WWII to the snowy streets of Moscow today.

In 1943, Barney Mayrsohn was hard at work in college, but with the world at war, he would enter the U.S. Army, joining his father and two brothers, who were also serving. In September of 1944, he was shipped aboard the Queen Mary, with 1,500 of his fellow soldiers, to the European Theater. A member of the 106th Infantry Division, Mr. Mayrsohn would find himself thrust into the largest land battle of WWII in which the United States participated: the German offensive in the Ardennes in the winter of 1944-1945 that would come to be known as the Battle of the Bulge.

During the fighting, Mr. Mayrsohn would prove a brave and resilient soldier, getting wounded twice and earning two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star, and a Combat Infantry Badge. As the battle continued unrelentingly, the 106th would lose half of the division, and Barney would be taken captive in December 1944.

He was taken by train, along with other Allied prisoners-of-war, to the Stalag 4B prison camp. Along the way, he narrowly escaped